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READ! _READ!_ READ!

Read What Mr. A. B. Gilmore, Managing Editor of "Modern Farming," says in
Favor of Planting Grafted Pecan Trees.

CONSIDER THE PECAN

Farmers who have recognized the great value of grafted papershell pecans on the farm increase their plantings from year to year. We often hear old farmers say how much they regret not having planted pecan trees years ago; and yet they have not so much to regret considering the mistakes they might have made in paying high prices for inferior varieties. It is only a few years, comparatively, since the pecan nursery business has been put on a solid basis. Nurserymen's experiences of the past twenty years have brought about many changes in methods of cultivation, discarding of varieties, sifting down to the best, etc. and the man who plants pecan trees today enjoys the benefit of years of study and experiment by the best pecan men in the South.

Texas, Georgia, and Florida are the leaders in acreage of pecan groves. Mississippi is fast falling in line and Louisiana, too, is waking up to the value of an investment in fancy pecan trees. And the further the extension of the business, the quicker is the erroneous impression being dissipated that it requires from ten to fifteen years before a pecan grove brings any returns.

It should be remembered, also, that a pecan grove can be grown virtually without any cost to its owner if there is a diversification of crops planted in between the trees, such as hog pasture crops and leguminous hays. The three P's—Pecans, Pigs and Peas—should be before every farmer's mind all the time.

The one-crop system is to be regarded as a thing of the past for safe farming and pecans, real fancy pecans, will help mightily to solve the problem. Every farmer should put fifteen to twenty per cent of his land into grafted pecan trees and lay the foundation for an easy income in the future. Pecan trees, of the right kind, are the best life insurance for the farmer; he can get his money back on the premium and enjoy the returns in his old age, besides leaving a valuable heritage for his children and theirs.

We have observed pecan trees with some fruit this season that were planted three and a half years ago, and Success and Stuart trees are to be seen loaded down with large, fancy nuts six years after planting. Records can be referred to that would open the skeptic's eyes to the possibilities and absolute value of fancy pecan trees. Illustrative of returns, there is an authenticated instance of a Thomasville, Ga., grower who sold from a ten-acre grove, from 1911 to 1913, exactly 4,929 pounds of pecans for \$1,875.89. This grove was planted in 1905 and in 1908 the first nuts ripened. The crops of 1909 and 1910 were sold at fifty cents per pound; the varieties, Success, Stuart, Frotscher, and Pabst.

Another noteworthy case is that of a Delmas pecan tree in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, planted in February, 1900, which began bearing in 1903, and even after cutting hundreds of scions for grafting from it, it is now forty-five inches in circumference at two feet above the ground, with a spread of about fifty feet, and has already brought in several hundred dollars for the fruit.

Hundreds of examples of profitable results, figures that are to be relied upon, can be cited in proof of profitable results from fancy pecans; what has been done can be done again, and it can be done by the average farmer on the average farm. But any man who contemplates the setting out of pecan trees should first settle firmly in his mind his willingness to give the trees what they require in careful planting, through cultivation and fertilization. If this policy of caring for the trees is to be pursued without fail, then we say, go ahead and plant pecan trees, and time will most likely prove it the best investment ever made on the farm.

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the Most Reliable Nursery in the South.

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